U.S. Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Office of the Secretary of Transportation

SUBJECT: Class Deviation No. 2026-15 from the Transportation Acquisition Regulation for TAR Part 1215 in Support of Executive Order 14275, Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement

FROM: Chrishaun Jones
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Date: 2026.11.03 21:54:53 -05'00'

TO: Department of Transportation Chiefs of the Contracting Offices

I. Purpose: This memorandum approves a class deviation to the Transportation Acquisition Regulation (TAR) part 1215 for the purpose of implementing, in the TAR, Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Class Deviation (CD) (No. 2026-15) for FAR part 15 in support of Executive Order (E.O.) 14275, "Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement."

II. Effective Date: Immediately.

III. Background: On April 15, 2025, Executive Order (E.O.) 14275, Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement was signed. Section 2 of the E.O. establishes the policy that the FAR "should only contain provisions required by statute or essential to sound procurement, and any FAR provisions that do not advance these objectives should be removed." The Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) initiative will make the FAR more concise, understandable, and focused on core procurement requirements. This also applies to agency supplements to the FAR.

Under this initiative, the FAR is being updated to:

- Remove language that is not required by statute
- Remove duplicative or outdated language
- Clarify or provide more plain language
- Revise language for the new FAR framework
- Retain language necessary for governmentwide acquisition standards.

The RFO FAR part 15 model deviation text upon which this RFO TAR part 1215 deviation is also based, establishes bedrock principles. The Department of Transportation (DOT) issued FAR CD 2026-15 for FAR part 15 on October 17, 2025.

To ensure alignment with issued E.O.s and the RFO FAR part CD, it is necessary to issue this RFO TAR CD in advance of a proposed rule to implement these requirements to ensure DOT policies and procedures align with these requirements. DOT intends on conducting further analysis and developing a rule for publication in the Federal Register for public comment after the release of this CD, and after FAR proposed and final rules are published.

IV. Summary of Changes: The following table is not an exhaustive list but includes notable updates to TAR part 1215:

Change	Description
New/Retained/ Updated	General – Updated TAR content and headings to align with RFO FAR Part 15. • **Subpart 1215.6—Unsolicited Proposals** o Retained. Renumbered from 1215.6 to align with RFO FAR part 15. • **1215.503, Preparing unsolicited proposals.** o Updated title and numbering from 1215.603, General, to 1215.503 to align with FAR, and updated to new FAR subpart 15.5 citation. • **1215.504, Receipt and initial review of unsolicited proposals.** o Updated title and numbering from 1215.604, Agency points of contact, to 1215.504 to align with the FAR. o Revised and streamlined text to use plain language and removed unnecessary last sentence. o Retained to provide needed agency guidance on points of contact. • **1215.504-1, Initial Review.** o Renumbered from 1215.6, Agency procedures to align with FAR. o Revised and streamlined text to plain language and removed language redundant to the FAR.
Removed	General – Text has been deleted in the subparts or sections below to remove non-statutory guidance. • **Subpart 1215.4—Contract pricing.** Removed as redundant to other established FAR guidance prohibiting paying profit on undefinitized contract actions, until definitized. o This includes removal the underlying sections below: • **1215.404, Proposal analysis.** (No text/header only) • **1215.404-470, Payment of profit or fee.**

V. Required Actions: Contracting Officers shall follow the RFO TAR part 1215 deviation text, in lieu of TAR part 1215 as codified at 48 CFR, chapter 12. The RFO TAR deviation text is shown in the Attachment.

Chiefs of the Contracting Offices (COCOs) must ensure this deviation is disseminated to the acquisition workforce and ensure compliance with the requirements in the CD.

VI. Applicability: This CD applies to all DOT Operating Administrations (OAs), the Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST), and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), excluding the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in accordance with RFO TAR 1201.103-70(b).

VII. **Authority:** This CD is issued under the authority of RFO FAR 1.304, Class deviations; TAR 1201.404, Class deviations; and the revised citation at RFO TAR 1201.304, for the purpose of implementing policy in the TAR to comply with requirements of certain E.O.s, statutes, and other directives in DOT FAR CD No. 2026-15 and as described below.

VIII. **Expiration Date:** This CD will remain in effect until it is incorporated into the TAR, superseded, or is otherwise rescinded, whichever occurs first.

IX. **Point of Contact:** Questions or comments regarding this deviation may be directed to DOTAcquisitionPolicy@dot.gov.

Attachment:

A. RFO TAR Part 1215 Deviation Text – Bold/Bracketed/Line-in Line-Out (BB-LILO)

Transportation Acquisition Regulation (TAR) Class Deviation (CD) No. 2026-15

Attachment A

RFO TAR Part 1215 Deviation Text

TAR Text Baseline is 48 CFR chapter 12 as of March 26, 2026.

Additions are shown as **[bolded and bracketed]** and deletions are shown in strikethrough ~~deletions~~. TAR Text unchanged shown as asterisks.

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Part 1215—Contracting by Negotiation

~~**Subpart 1215.4—Contract Pricing**~~
~~1215.404 Proposal analysis.~~
~~1215.404-470 Payment of profit or fee~~.

Subpart 1215.[5]~~6~~—Unsolicited Proposals
1215.~~6~~**[5]**03 ~~General.~~ **[Preparing unsolicited proposals.]**
1215.~~6~~**[5]**04 ~~Agency points of contact.~~ **[Receipt and initial review of unsolicited proposals.**
1215.~~606~~**[504-1]** ~~Agency procedures.~~ **[Initial review.]**

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 301; 41 U.S.C. 1121(c)(3); **[and]** 41 U.S.C. 1702~~; and 48 CFR 1.301 through 1.304~~.

PART 1215— CONTRACTING BY NEGOTIATION

~~**Subpart 1215.4—Contract Pricing**~~

~~**1215.404 Proposal analysis.**~~

~~**1215.404-470 Payment of profit or fee.**~~

~~The contracting officer shall not pay profit or fee on undefinitized contracts or undefinitized contract modifications. Any profit or fee earned shall be paid after the contract or modification is definitized.~~

Subpart 1215.[5]~~6~~—Unsolicited Proposals

1215.[5]~~6~~03 [Preparing unsolicited proposals.] ~~General.~~

DOT will not pay any costs associated with the preparation of unsolicited proposals. Proposals that do not meet the definition and applicable content and marking requirements of FAR subpart 15**.[5]**~~6~~ will not be considered under any circumstances and will be returned to the submitter.

1215.[5]~~6~~04 [Receipt and initial review of unsolicited proposals.] ~~Agency points of contact.~~

~~(a)~~ **[The OA supporting contracting activity is the designated point of contact for receipt and handling of unsolicited proposals. OA supporting contracting activities are listed at https://www.transportation.gov/mission/administrations/assistant-secretary-administration/procurement/unsolicited-proposals.]** ~~Unsolicited proposals should be submitted to the responsible OA contracting office for appropriate handling.~~ Specific information concerning the mission of each DOT OA is available online at *https://www.transportation.gov/*. Offerors are urged to contact these contracting~~/procurement~~ offices prior to submitting a proposal to ensure that the unsolicited proposal reaches the correct contracting office ~~for action~~. ~~This action will reduce unnecessary paperwork and wasted time for both the Government and offerors.~~

~~**1215.606 Agency procedures.**~~

[1215.504-1 Initial review.]

[(b)] ~~The OA contracting office is the designated point of contact for receipt and handling of unsolicited proposals (*see* 1215.604).~~ The assigned DOT contracting office will **[acknowledge receipt and]** review and evaluate the proposal within 30 calendar days, if practicable~~, in accordance with FAR 15.606-1, Receipt and initial review, to inform the offeror of the reasons for rejection and the proposed disposition of the unsolicited proposal~~.